

## RES14-032

Wilmington, Delaware  
July 10, 2014

#3961

**Sponsors:**

**Council  
President  
Gregory**

**Council  
Member  
Chukwuocha**

**Co-Sponsor:**

**Council  
Member  
Dorsey Walker**

**WHEREAS**, social promotion, designed to keep failing students on grade level socially, is often viewed as severely crippling in their later years; and

**WHEREAS**, grade retention, designed to provide affected students a review of missed or failed subject matter, is often viewed as an ineffective educational tool; and

**WHEREAS**, the above educational practices severely and negatively affect minority students and those with fewer means; and

**WHEREAS**, the end result is poor preparation for affected students, the loss of valuable manpower for the American workforce and a significant negative presence in the criminal justice system; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 24, 2014, the Delaware House of Representatives passed a resolution creating a task force to study and provide alternative solutions to school retention and social promotion; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the City of Wilmington understands that young residents of the City are among those affected by such policies, and seeks to advocate on behalf of those and all children and families within the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON**, that the Council supports the efforts on the part of State lawmakers to study and generate potential solutions to the policies of social promotion and school retention, and urges the task force and the State Department of Education to confer with the Education, Youth and Families Committee of the Wilmington City Council, as well as others within the City of Wilmington executive and legislative branches who are knowledgeable in the area of urban education, as proposals are made and efforts furthered to address these important issues.

Passed by City Council,  
July 10, 2014

Attest: Maribel Seijo  
City Clerk

Approved as to form this 9<sup>th</sup>  
day of July, 2014.

Don Rhee  
Assistant City Solicitor